WE CLAIM:

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- A method of treatment of allergic asthma in a patient comprising administering to the patient a maintenance dose of an IgE antagonist and, optionally, a loading dose of the IgE antagonist.
 - 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose is repeated at intervals of about 1 to about 90 days.
 - 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the maintenance dose is repeated weekly.
- 4. The method of claim 2, wherein the maintenance dose is repeated biweekly.
 - 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the IgE antagonist is an anti-IgE antibody.
- 20 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the antibody is chimeric.
 - 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the antibody is humanized.
- 8. The method of claim 5, wherein the antibody is a human antibody.
 - 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the antagonist binds to soluble IgE and blocks the binding of IgE to the IgE receptor on basophils.
 - 10. The method of claim 5, wherein the antibody binds to soluble IgE and blocks the binding of IgE to the IgE receptor on basophils.

- 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the loading dose is administered before onset of asthma symptoms.
- 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the loading dose is administered after the onset of asthma symptoms.

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- 13. The method of claim 1, wherein the loading dose is greater than the maintenance dose.
- 14. The method of claim 1, wherein the antagonist is administered in a formulation comprising a buffer, a salt, optionally, a polyol, and optionally, a preservative.
- 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the antagonist is freezedried, then reconstituted before administration.
 - 16. The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose reduce the concentration of free IgE in the patient's serum to less than about 40 ng/ml.
 - 17. The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose of antagonist is about 0.001 to 0.01 mg/kg/week/baseline IgE IU/ml.
- 18. The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose, results in a total serum concentration of antagonist of about 1 to 10 times greater than the patient's total serum IgE concentration.
- 19. A method for treating allergic asthma in a patient comprising administering to the patient a dose of IgE antagonist averaging about 0.001 to 0.01 mg/kg/week IgE antagonist for every IU/ml baseline IgE in the patient's serum.

- 20. A method of reducing the late asthmatic response in a patient comprising administering to the patient a maintenance dose of an IgE antagonist and, optionally, a loading dose of the IgE antagonist.
- 21. The method of claim 20, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose reduce the concentration of free IgE in the patient's serum to less than about 40 ng/ml.
- 10 22. The method of claim 20, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose, results in a total serum concentration of antagonist of about 1 to 10 times greater than the patient's total serum IgE concentration.

- 23. A method of reducing the late asthmatic response in a patient comprising administering to the patient a dose of IgE antagonist averaging about 0.001 to 0.01 mg/kg/week IgE antagonist for every IU/ml baseline IgE in the patient's serum.
- 24. A method of reducing the early asthmatic response in a patient comprising administering to the patient a maintenance dose of an IgE antagonist and, optionally, a loading dose of the IgE antagonist.
- 25. The method of claim 24, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose reduce the concentration of free IgE in the patient's serum to less than about 40 ng/ml.
- 26. The method of claim 24, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose, results in a total serum concentration of antagonist of about 1 to 10 times greater than the patient's total serum IgE concentration.

27. A method of reducing the early asthmatic response in a patient comprising administering to the patient a dose of IgE antagonist averaging about 0.001 to 0.01 mg/kg/week IgE antagonist for every IU/ml baseline IgE in the patient's serum.

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- 28. A method of reducing bronchial hyperreactivity in a patient comprising administering to the patient a maintenance dose of an IgE antagonist and, optionally, a loading dose of the IgE antagonist.
- 29. The method of claim 28, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose reduce the concentration of free IgE in the patient's serum to less than about 40 ng/ml.
- 30. The method of claim 28, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose, results in a total serum concentration of antagonist of about 1 to 10 times greater than the patient's total serum IgE concentration.
- 31. A method of reducing bronchial hyperreactivity in a patient comprising administering to the patient a dose of IgE antagonist averaging about 0.001 to 0.01 mg/kg/week IgE antagonist for every IU/ml baseline IgE in the patient's serum.
- 25 32. A method of reducing skin reactivity in a patient comprising administering to the patient a maintenance dose of an IgE antagonist and, optionally, a loading dose of the IgE antagonist.
- 33. The method of claim 32, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose reduce the concentration of free IgE in the patient's serum to less than about 40 ng/ml.
 - 34. The method of claim 32, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose, results in a total serum

concentration of antagonist of about 1 to 10 times greater than the patient's total serum IgE concentration.

- 35. A method of reducing skin reactivity in a patient comprising administering to the patient a dose of IgE antagonist averaging about 0.001 to 0.01 mg/kg/week IgE antagonist for every IU/ml baseline IgE in the patient's serum.
- 36. A method of reducing lung inflammation in a patient comprising administering to the patient a maintenance dose of an IgE antagonist and, optionally, a loading dose of the IgE antagonist..
- 37. The method of claim 36, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose reduce the concentration of free IgE in the patient's serum to less than about 40 ng/ml.
 - 38. The method of claim 36, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose, results in a total serum concentration of antagonist of about 1 to 10 times greater than the patient's total serum IgE concentration.
 - 39. A method of reducing lung inflammation in a patient comprising administering to the patient a dose of IgE antagonist averaging about 0.001 to 0.01 mg/kg/week IgE antagonist for every IU/ml baseline IgE in the patient's serum.

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